

Claims:

1. A method for selling pre-owned integrated circuit manufacturing systems online, comprising:
 - receiving information representing an integrated circuit manufacturing system available for purchase;
 - posting the information on an electronically viewable medium;
 - receiving an electronically transmitted bid for the integrated circuit manufacturing system from a buyer;
 - transmitting the bid to a seller;
 - receiving a bid acceptance from the seller; and
 - providing technical services related to the integrated circuit manufacturing system available for purchase to at least one of the buyer and seller through an integrated online service.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising arranging for the shipment of the integrated circuit manufacturing system available for purchase from the seller to the buyer.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein posting the information further comprises posting information representative of the integrated circuit manufacturing system available for purchase on an Internet web site.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein posting the information further comprises electronically disseminating information regarding the integrated circuit manufacturing system available for purchase to targeted potential buyers.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein electronically disseminating information further comprises sending an electronic mail message.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving an electronically transmitted bid further comprises receiving an electronic bid message in a host semiconductor equipment sales web site.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein providing technical services further comprises at least one of providing system inspection services, providing system audit services, providing system decontamination services, and providing system refurbishment services.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising providing payment and shipping arrangements between the buyer and seller.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the payment arrangements further comprise at least one of an online escrow account arrangement, a cash on delivery arrangement, a credit arrangement, and a billable account set up with a host web site.

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving identification information from buyers and sellers, the identification information being calculated to facilitate secure access to the electronically viewable medium.

11. A method for selling used integrated circuit manufacturing equipment through an integrated electronic sales and technical service platform, comprising:

posting information regarding pre-owned integrated circuit manufacturing systems available for purchase on an Internet web site;

providing integrated technical services related to the sale of the pre-owned integrated circuit manufacturing systems through the Internet web site;

receiving an electronic purchase bid for a specific pre-owned integrated circuit manufacturing system posted on the Internet web site;

transmitting the electronic purchase bid to a seller of the specific pre-owned integrated circuit manufacturing system; and

receiving a purchase bid acceptance from the seller.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein posting information further comprises:

electronically receiving information regarding a pre-owned integrated circuit manufacturing system available for purchase from a seller;

converting the electronically received information into a format suitable for display on the Internet web site; and

displaying information representative of the pre-owned integrated circuit

manufacturing system available for purchase on the Internet web site for viewing by potential purchasers.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein posting further comprises disseminating information regarding the pre-owned integrated circuit manufacturing systems available for purchase to predetermined potential buyers.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein providing integrated technical services through the Internet web site further comprises providing at least one of system audit services, system inspection services, system decontamination services, and system refurbishment services.

15. The method of claim 11, wherein receiving an electronic purchase bid further comprises receiving an electronic purchase bid having at least one condition of sale relating to technical services to be conducted on the pre-owned integrated circuit manufacturing system.

16. The method of claim 11, wherein transmitting the electronic purchase bid to a seller further comprises sending an electronic mail message to the seller.

17. The method of claim 11, further comprising providing at least one payment and shipping option to the buyer.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the at least one payment arrangement further comprises at least one of an online escrow account, a cash on delivery arrangement, a credit arrangement, and a billable account set up with a host web site.

19. The method of claim 11, further comprising receiving identification information from a buyer and the seller, wherein the identification information may be used to provide secure access to the Internet web site.